



FEDERAL COMMUNICATIONS COMMISSION
WASHINGTON

OFFICE OF THE
CHAIRWOMAN

August 16, 2023

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn
United States Senate
357 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Blackburn:

Thank you for your letter regarding the ongoing proceeding at the Federal Communications Commission concerning Expanding Flexible Use of the 12.2-12.7 GHz band (12.2 GHz band).

In May, the Commission evaluated and addressed the complex engineering challenges in the 12.2 GHz band, finding that authorizing two-way, high-powered terrestrial mobile service in that spectrum would impose a significant risk of harmful interference to existing and emergent services in the band, including satellite services. At the same time, the Commission began a further investigation of the potential to expand terrestrial fixed use or to permit unlicensed use in the 12.2 GHz band. In addition to our actions in the 12.2 GHz band, the Commission sought comment on a proposal to repurpose some or all of the 550 megahertz in the 12.7-13.25 GHz band (12.7 GHz band) for terrestrial mobile service or other expanded use.

I am grateful that you have acknowledged the agency's expertise in overseeing commercial use of spectrum, as well as your recognition of the difficult and complex engineering issues that required careful assessment in this proceeding. I also share your interest in closing the digital divide by efficiently using spectrum to support 5G, fixed wireless, and satellite networks. I believe the Commission's thoughtful approach to this swath of more than 1000 megahertz of mid-band spectrum is a smart investment in our wireless future.

I appreciate your interest in this matter. As we move forward, the Commission will fully take into account the needs of consumers and existing users. Please let me know if I can be of any further assistance.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Jessica Rosenworcel", is written over a horizontal line.

Jessica Rosenworcel



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August 16, 2023

The Honorable Ben Ray Lujan
United States Senate
498 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Luján:

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